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contribution in their book, *Occupations*. This book is well adapted to the junior-high-school period of a boy's life. It is during this period that the boy should get an insight into the social and economic possibilities of the main trunkline vocations of our country. The only way that this information will ever reach the vast majority of boys is through books.

This book is divided into three parts. Part I is a discussion of "Characteristics of a Good Vocation," and "How to Study a Vocation." The suggestions should help those interested in vocational guidance. Part II is a description of the vocations usually listed under the following heads: "Agriculture," "Commercial Occupations," "Transportation," "Civil Service," "Manufacturing," "The Building Trades," "The Engineering Professions," "The Learned Professions and Allied Occupations," "Miscellaneous and New Openings." The description of each vocation taken up is necessarily short, and therefore gives only a very general idea of the vocation. But, even so, the boy reading the short descriptions will get enough to arouse his interest in some of the vocations and cause him to make further investigations.

Part III is given over to short discussions on "Choosing Your Life-Work," "Securing a Position," and "Efficient Work and Its Reward." The suggestions are helpful and should be a part of the education of every boy.

The bibliography given at the end of each chapter and the four sets of "Vocational Libraries" in the appendix make the book a valuable contribution to the literature on vocational guidance.

EDWIN L. HOLTON

STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
MANHATTAN, KAN.

History of the Working Classes in France. A Review of Levasseur's *Histoire des classes ouvrières et de l'industrie en France avant 1789*. By AGNES MATHILDE WERGELAND. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1916. Pp. vi+136. \$1.00.

This review of Levasseur's great work appeared first in the *Journal of Political Economy*. In the words of "K. M." in the Preface, it "is not merely an ordinary review. It is rather a running commentary in brief, for which the author himself showed warm appreciation. It throws emphasis on the chief features of the work, and arouses the English reader's and the student's desire for further acquaintance with the original. This is the justification for reprinting it as a separate

volume." The review is in two chapters, corresponding to the volumes of Levasseur's work: (1) "Mediaeval Period," and (2) "Renaissance and Modern Periods." The limitations of the review do not permit of detailed treatment of any of the phases of the history of the working classes, but suggestive references are made to such subjects as the organization of the guilds and their orders; the fraternities, the beginnings of trade unions, strikes, and other devices for winning industrial disputes; wages and conditions of labor; regulations governing production; taxation; coinage and banking; fairs and commerce; attempts at protection; royal manufactories and monopolies; also to the industrial programs of such monarchs as Henry IV and Louis XIV and of such statesmen as Richelieu, Colbert, and Turgot. In the entire course of the review the writer is sympathetic and appreciative of the significance of Levasseur's work, and the publication of this little book should assist in realizing her expressed hope that more students might be induced to read the work reviewed.

ROBERT FRY CLARK

FOREST GROVE, ORE.

Marketing Perishable Farm Products. Vol. LXXII, No. 3, Whole Number 170, Studies in History, Economics and Public Law, Columbia University, 1916, by Arthur B. Adams, A.M. Pp. 180.

In this volume Mr. Adams has sought to narrow the investigation of the working of the marketing or middleman system down to that of perishable farm products. In the preface he says: "The attempt is made to point out the fundamental economic forces which underlie the marketing of these goods and to suggest methods of controlling these forces so that the cost of passing the goods through the market processes may be reduced." In the six chapters he considers "The Character and Significance of the Problem," "The Present System of Marketing Perishables," "Why the System is a Burden to Society," "Reform of the Marketing Processes or Machinery," "Reduction of Costs of Performing the Marketing Processes," and "Reduction of the Burdens of Marketing by Changing the Nature of the Goods and Area of Production."

The essentials of the problem are: small portion of produced perishables marketed, fluctuation of prices, high prices to consumers, low prices to farmers, and deterioration of goods from producer to consumer. The lowering of the real wages of laborers, and the increasing use of